

circuit 58 thereby initiating the charging of the rechargeable battery 38. The charging circuit 58 monitors the charging voltage of the rechargeable battery 38 and terminates the charging operation when a specified voltage is reached.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the main body of the camera seen from front while Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the main body of the camera seen from rear, wherein shown are an external casing 70 and a pen 72 to be used for character input and position designation on the digitizer 42. The power supply connector 52a is provided with terminals 74a, 76a, 78a. The terminal 74a is used for detecting the connection of the cradle, while the terminal 76a is used for charging, and the terminal 78a is an on/off control terminal for supplying, from the main body of the camera, a trigger signal for activating the power supply circuit 56 of the cradle 50 when the main body of the camera is set on the cradle 50.

Fig. 4 is a schematic perspective view of the cradle 50, wherein shown is a main body 80 of the cradle. The power supply connector 52b is provided with three terminals 74b, 76b, 78b respectively opposed and connectable to the terminals 74a, 76a, 78a of the power supply connector 52a.

Fig. 5 is a flow chart showing the operation of data storage, folder change and image display in the

cradle 50, and Figs. 6 to 13 show examples of display in various process steps.

When the operator sets the main body of the camera on the cradle 50 after turning on the power supply of the camera (S401), a signal is supplied to the on/off control connector 78b of the cradle 50 whereby the power supply therein is automatically turned on. On the image area of the LCD display device 22, there is displayed a cradle operation menu image 110 shown in Fig. 6 (S1). On the cradle operation menu image 110, there can be selected a "data backup" menu 112 or an "image display" menu 114. In the lower part of the image there are displayed operation commands 116 for menu, editing, display and tool. These operation commands 116 are displayed in any mode, except in case of the image display on the entire image area.

When the operator touches a desired item with the pen 72, the digitizer 42 transmits the coordinate data of the operated position to the CPU 20, which in response identifies the selected menu (S2). According to thus identified menu, the CPU 20 reads a program from the ROM 36 and executes a corresponding process. Regardless of the state of the image display, by touching the "menu" item in the operation commands 116, there is displayed the cradle operation menu 110, and touching "editing", the display is switched to a folder structure display image 120 shown in Fig. 7. The items

"display" and "tool" in the operation commands 116 change the functions thereof according to the status of image display.

In case the operator touches the "image display" menu 114, the LCD display device 22 displays, as shown in Fig. 7, the folder structure prepared in the backup HDD 62 of the cradle 50 (S3). When the operator executes a single touch on an arbitrary folder 122 within the displayed folders with the pen 72 (S4), the touched folder mark is reversal displayed (S5), and the reduction images (thumbnail images) of the images stored in such folder are simultaneously displayed as shown in Fig. 8 (S6). By selecting one of such images (for example by touching with the pen 72), the touched image is displayed in a large size as shown in Fig. 9 (S8). When the thumbnail images are displayed, there is simultaneously displayed lateral movement keys 124 for changing the displayed thumbnail images, as shown in Fig. 8. By touching such lateral movement keys 124 with the pen 72, the displayed thumbnail images can be changed within the same folder.

The CPU 20 discriminates single touch or double touches according to the coordinate information from the digitizer 42 and the time interval of transmission of such information.

When a desired folder is double touched by the pen 72 (S4), there is activated a folder name changing